

This diploma thesis deals with the problems of placing children in children's diagnostic institutes in the context of social changes.

The theoretical part of this diploma thesis is divided into 4 basic sections that are related to the domain of childhood and adolescence in today's society, possible causes of problematic behaviour of children, where the family plays a crucial role, the causes of placing children in diagnostic institutes and the care for individuals with problematic behaviour or in danger.

The central part of my thesis consists of a research survey for which I chose study of documents as the research method. In the research survey I examine two groups of children - from 1991 and from 2006, placed in a children's diagnostic institute in Prague. The first group consists of 118 children and the second one of 112 children placed for diagnostic stay. The main question of the research survey is: What are the similarities and differences between the groups of children placed in the Children's Diagnostic Institute in Prague in 1991 and in 2006?

I compared these two groups from the point of view of the following variables: reasons for placing the children in the diagnostic institute, family background, occurrence of behaviour disorders in different age groups and occurrence of behaviour disorders among girls and among boys.